

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-02-7
---	---------------------

**ORDER ADDRESSING CONSUMER COMMENT HEARINGS AND
MODIFYING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

(Issued August 22, 2002)

On July 15, 2002, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) proposed gas tariffs, identified as TF-02-424 and TF-02-425. In TF-02-424, IPL is proposing a temporary increase that would produce additional revenue of approximately \$18,640,899. In TF-02-425, IPL is proposing a permanent annual revenue increase of approximately \$20,070,773, or an overall annual revenue increase of 7.2 percent. This represents an average increase of 8.6 percent for residential customers in IPL's IES Northern Zone, an average increase of 12.4 percent in IPL's IES Southern Zone, an average increase of 7.1 percent in IPL's Mason City Zone, and an average increase of 6 percent in IPL's Clinton Zone.

The Board issued an order on August 14, 2002, docketing the application as Docket No. RPU-02-7, suspending the proposed tariffs, and establishing a procedural schedule. In the order the Board also indicated that it would be scheduling consumer comment hearings to allow customers to comment on the proposed rate increase.

Based upon the small number of consumer contacts concerning the proposed rate increase, the Board will not schedule consumer comment hearings as previously indicated. The Board finds that its limited resources will be better utilized elsewhere.

A review of the procedural schedule in the August 14, 2002, order shows that some of the filing dates fell on a weekend or holiday. The Board will therefore modify the procedural schedule in this order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The following modified procedural schedule is established:

- a. Applications to intervene shall be filed within 20 days of the date of this order.
- b. The parties shall notify the Utilities Board prior to December 9, 2002, if they desire a prehearing conference.
- c. The Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) and any intervenors shall file prepared direct testimony, with the underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before October 28, 2002. If a party references a data request in its prepared testimony, the data request shall be filed as an exhibit.
- d. If Consumer Advocate and any intervenors find it necessary to file testimony in rebuttal to each other's direct testimony, they may file rebuttal testimony on or before November 15, 2002.

e. Interstate Power and Light Company shall file its rebuttal testimony, with underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before December 2, 2002.

f. Consumer Advocate and any intervenor shall file rebuttal testimony on any issue raised initially in that party's direct testimony and responded to by another party on or before January 10, 2003.

g. The parties shall file a joint statement of the issues on or before February 3, 2003.

h. All parties, which choose to file a prehearing brief, may do so on or before February 7, 2003.

i. A hearing shall be held beginning at 10 a.m. on February 17, 2003, for the purpose of receiving testimony and the cross-examination of all testimony. The hearing shall be held in the Utilities Board Hearing Room, 350 Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa. The parties shall appear one-half hour prior to the time of the hearing for the purpose of marking exhibits. Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 281-5256 in advance of the scheduled date to request that appropriate arrangements be made.

j. The parties may file simultaneous initial briefs on or before March 17, 2003.

k. All parties who filed initial briefs may file reply briefs on or before
March 31, 2003.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper _____
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 22nd day of August, 2002.